

(a) whether issuance of ration cards has been banned in the Union Territory of Chandigarh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the time from which this ban was imposed;

(c) whether the scheme to provide ration at lower price to the people living below the poverty line in Chandigarh has been implemented;

(d) if not, the time by which the scheme will be launched and the number of persons likely to be benefited therefrom;

(e) whether the people living below the poverty line have been identified; and

(f) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) :

(a) The Chandigarh Administration has informed that ration cards to eligible families are being issued as per policy.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Not yet Sir.

(d) The Scheme will be launched from 1st June, 1997 and the number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families likely to be benefited under the scheme is 18,000.

(e) and (f) As informed by Chandigarh Administration, the process of identification of BPL families is in progress and the process is likely to be completed by May end.

[English]

Environmental Projects

4861. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Centrally assisted environmental projects running in Jammu & Kashmir;

(b) the details of achievements made and the amount of assistance provided under each of these projects; and

(c) the date of commencement and completion of each project running in the State with the Central assistance?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) The details of the Centrally assisted environmental projects running in Jammu & Kashmir along with achievements made and assistance provided are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) The projects are continuing in nature.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Broad Objective	Extent of Central Funding	Status	Achievements during last year 1996-97	
					Financial	Physical
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries	To develop National Parks and Sanctuaries	100%	Ongoing	13.94	4 National Parks covered
2.	Eco Development around Reserve areas	To provide alternative sustenance to communities living on the fringes of Reserve Areas	100% NR 50% R	Ongoing	5.00	4 National Parks covered
3.	Integrated afforestation and eco-development project scheme	Promote afforestation and Eco-development	100%	Ongoing	294.88	3212 Hectares (target)
4.	Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder scheme	Augmenting supply of fuelwood & Fodder in indentified fuelwood deficit district	50%	Ongoing	72.01	1670 hectares (target)
5.	Non Timber Produce including Medicinal Plants	Raising Non Timber Produce including Medicinal Plants	100%	Ongoing	149.86	3865 hectares (target)
6.	Seed Development	To develop infrastructure for quality seeds	100%	Ongoing	11.00	Target fixed in terms of financial releases

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.	Central Zoo Authority	Upgradation of Zoos	100%	Ongoing	Nil	1 Zoo covered
8.	Assistance for abatement of pollution	To strengthen the J&K Pollution Control Board	100%	Ongoing	4.00	NA
9.	Paryavarna Vahini	Create Environmental Awareness	100%	Ongoing	Nil	3 Districts selected Paryavaran Vahinis (Jammu, B.Le)
10.	Conservation of Wetlands	To protect and regenerate the wetlands	100%	Ongoing	41.00	2 wetlands covered (TSO-MOI qual)

NR - Non Recurring

R - Recurring

NA - Not Available

[Translation]

Migration from Bangladesh

4862. SHRI SOHAN VEER SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Bangladeshi migrants residing illegally in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether any action has been taken by the Government for their deportation; and

(c) if so, the number of Bangladeshi migrants identified and sent back during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) It is difficult to estimate the exact number of infiltrators from Bangladesh because they enter surreptitiously and are able to mingle easily with the local population due to ethnic and linguistic similarities.

(b) The interception/apprehension of unauthorised Bangladesh migrants and their deportation to Bangladesh is an on-going process. The matter has been taken up with the Government of Bangladesh at various levels from time to time. A series of measures have been taken by the Government to curb the problem of infiltration of Bangladeshi nationals into India. These measures includes raising of additional battalions of Border Security Force, reduction of gaps between the border outposts, intensification of patrolling both on the land and the riverine border, accelerated programme of construction of border roads and fencing, increase in the number of outpost towers, provisions of surveillance equipments etc. The progress of these measures is reviewed regularly at various levels.

(c) The year-wise details as reported by the Border Security Force are given below :

Year	Intercepted	Pushed Back
1	2	3
1994	26,562	22,110

[English]

Assistance for Protective Works

4863. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that due to elephants trampling, several lakhs worth of crops are being destroyed every year in the Mysore District;

(b) if so, whether the Karnataka Government has sought any financial assistance for trenching and for taking protective works to save the crops; and

(c) if so, the amount sought for and the amount released by the Central Government for the purpose during 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir. The damage to agricultural crops grown at the fringes of elephant habitats by wild elephants results in losses that run in lakhs of rupees.

(b) and (c) The amounts of financial assistance sought by the Karnataka Government for trenching and taking protective works to save the crops and released by the Central Government under Project Elephant during 1996-97 are given below:

Scheme	Item	Amount Sought	Amount Released
Project Elephant	Trenching	Rs. 35.58 lakhs	Rs. 14.20 lakhs
	Energised fence	Rs. 12.00 lakhs	Rs. 8.50 lakhs
Total		Rs. 47.58 lakhs	Rs. 22.70 lakhs